

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PBOR, MX

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT'S PRESS CONFERENCE REMARKS ON
ILLEGAL ALIENS

IN APRIL 22 INTERVIEW WITH SEVERAL RADIO JOURNALISTS
FROM SOUTHWEST, PRESIDENT FORD, IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION AS
TO HIS VIEWS ON FINING US EMPLOYERS WHO HIRE ILLEGAL ALIENS
AND ON THE ILLEGAL ALIEN PROBLEM IN GENERAL SAID:

QUOTE: I AM FULLY ACQUAINTED WITH THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE
NUMBER OF ILLEGAL ALIENS IN THIS COUNTRY. THE MINIMUM IS
SIX MILLION AND SOME PEOPLE ALLEGE THERE ARE EIGHT MILLION
ILLEGAL ALIENS IN THIS COUNTRY. THE PROBLEM IS CREATED BY
THE FACT THAT BY VARIOUS MEANS ILLEGAL ALIENS CAN COME
INTO THIS COUNTRY AND STAY FOR A LONG TIME AND THAT WE
HAVE NOT, IN MY OPINION, DONE AS WELL AS WE SHOULD IN
APPREHENDING, DETAINING AND DEPORTING THEM. IN ORDER TO
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SOLVE THAT PROBLEM, IN THE BUDGET THAT I SUBMITTED TO THE

CONGRESS IN JANUARY OF THIS YEAR WE ADDED, AS I RECALL, TEN MILLION FOR THE PURPOSE OF APPREHENSION, DETENTION AND DEPORTATION. UNDER THE PAST POLICIES WE HAVE ARRESTED A NUMBER OF THEM BUT THEY HAVE BEEN RELEASED AND WE DON'T GET THEM DEPORTED AND SO I INSISTED THAT THE PROPER

AUTHORITIES HAVE MORE PERSONNEL IN THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO APPREHEND, TO DETAIN AND TO DEPORT AND THAT IS WHAT I THINK IS THE PROPER ANSWER TO A SERIOUS PROBLEM.

NOW THERE IS A BILL IN THE CONGRESS CALLED THE RODINO BILL SPONSORED BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY WHICH PUTS A BURDEN ON EMPLOYERS TO INQUIRE WHETHER OR NOT THAT INDIVIDUAL THAT HE IS EMPLOYING IS AN ILLEGAL ALIEN AND I BELIEVE FROM WHAT I HAVE HEARD THAT IT PENALIZES AN EMPLOYER WHO DOES NOT ASK THE QUESTION AND HIRES SOMEBODY WITHOUT CARRYING OUT THE NECESSARY PRECAUTIONS.

THERE IS A LOT OF OBJECTION TO THAT BILL FROM SOME SOURCES, BUT IF I HAVE TO TILT, I WOULD TILT TOWARD SUCH A REQUIREMENT. BUT THE MAIN PROBLEM IS TO NOW GET THOSE SIX TO EIGHT MILLION PEOPLE OUT OF THIS COUNTRY WHO ARE INTERFERING WITH OUR ECONOMIC PROSPERITY, AND THE PROGRAM THAT I RECOMMENDED FOR AN ADDITIONAL AMOUNT OF MONEY TO GET MORE PEOPLE IN THE LAW ENFORCEMENT AREA, I THINK, WILL HAVE A BENEFICIAL RESULT.

END QUOTE.

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